

Press Release

From the Office of
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Tour of California Cycling Race Featuring Lance Armstrong Gets Financial Boost from Supervisor Neil Derry

Derry procures \$40,000 in funding for event preparation

SAN BERNARDINO, CA – Seeking to capitalize on the anticipated economic boom that will result from hosting the Amgen Tour of California in Big Bear Lake, San Bernardino County Supervisor Neil Derry worked to procure various sources of funding to assist in preparation for the May 21st event.

The Tour of California is a world-class cycling event featuring Lance Armstrong and other internationally known competitors.

“All eyes will be on San Bernardino County as hosts the first mountaintop finish and I am excited about the immediate economic impact and broader ability, to showcase our region as a great place to do business,” Supervisor Derry said. **“Past host cities and surrounding regions have seen a noticeable impact in economic activity and we are hopeful to benefit from the same during these tough economic times.”**

Supervisor Derry allocated \$10,000 and worked with the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and the Economic Development Agency to procure an additional \$30,000 in funds.

The funds will be used to promote and stage the event while also holding ancillary events designed to encourage tourism into the region and other economic benefits. On May 22nd, an ancillary event called the Tour de Big Bear Breakaway from Cancer is designed to promote cancer awareness and prevention education while providing an attractive allure to cycling enthusiasts who not only want to travel to the region to watch the professional athletes like Lance Armstrong, but would like to compete in an amateur race the following day.

The Tour of California will travel through 16 host cities throughout the state from May 16th to May 23rd. On May 21st, the sixth stage will begin in Pasadena and conclude in Big Bear Lake, which will serve as the first mountaintop finish in race history and mark the first time that San Bernardino County has been selected to host this prestigious event that is followed by international audiences.

The official route for the Big Bear Lake stage of the course will be announced on Thursday.